

# **Pinellas County**

315 Court Street  
Clearwater, Florida 33756



## **Minutes - Final**

**Tuesday, January 8, 2019**

**9:30 AM**

**BCC Assembly Room**

## **Board of County Commissioners**

*Karen Williams Seel, Chair*

*Pat Gerard, Vice-Chair*

*Dave Eggers*

*Charlie Justice*

*Janet C. Long*

*Kathleen Peters*

*Kenneth T. Welch*

**ROLL CALL - 9:30 A.M.**

**Present:** 7 - Chair Karen Williams Seel, Vice-Chair Pat Gerard, Dave Eggers, Charlie Justice, Janet C. Long, Kathleen Peters, and Kenneth T. Welch

**Others Present:** Barry A. Burton, County Administrator; Jewel White, County Attorney; Claretha N. Harris, Chief Deputy Clerk; and Chris Bartlett, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk.;

**INVOCATION by Reverend Bob Scott, Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church, Clearwater.****PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE****PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS**

1. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Proclamation:
  - Thelma Bruce, President, St. Petersburg Metropolitan Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc.

Chair Seel invited Ms. Bruce and her executive team, Angela Holmes Rouson, Ethel Robinson, Valerie Williams, Timeka Walker, Apostle Clarice Pennington, Cynthia Glenn, Beverly Campbell, and Sandra Gibson to the podium for recognition; whereupon, she presented the group with a plaque and read a proclamation recognizing January 21, 2019 as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and Commissioner Welch provided input.

2. National Mentoring Month Proclamation:
  - Dr. Valerie Brimm, Director, Office of Strategic Partnerships, Pinellas County Schools
  - Keosha Simmons, Lunch Pals Coordinator, Pinellas County Schools

Chair Seel noted that as part of the Board's Strategic Plan, the Commission and County Administrator grant 90 minutes of paid administrative leave each week to employees who wish to serve as mentors to children in the community; and that the County's partnership with the Pinellas County school system has resulted in more than 1,300 volunteer hours from County employees since 2016. She presented Dr. Brimm with a proclamation recognizing the month of January 2019 as National Mentoring Month, and Dr. Brimm thanked the County for its partnership.

3. Doing Things! Employee Recognition Award:
  - Ervin Hillary, Compliance Inspector, Solid Waste

Chair Seel and Mr. Burton recognized Solid Waste Compliance Inspector Ervin Hillary as a five-year employee who works daily to ensure the safety of County employees and residents, and for serving his community as a mentor through Pinellas County Schools' Take Stock in Children program; whereupon, a video was shown highlighting the services he provides.

**4. Partner Presentation:**

- Dr. Valerie Brimm, Director, Office of Strategic Partnerships, Pinellas County Schools

Special Assistant to the County Administrator Canaan McCaslin conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Doing Things! Pinellas County Mentoring Initiatives January 2019* and provided an update on the County's mentoring programs. He noted that the program has been in place for three years; and that its focus is on traditional weekly or monthly mentoring along with other one-day opportunities; whereupon, he discussed the participation of County staff in the various programs.

Dr. Brimm conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *PCS Mentoring Programs 2018-2019* and highlighted Take Stock in Children, Lunch Pals, 5000 RM/Girlfriends, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Peer to Peer, and other general mentoring programs. She indicated that the programs collectively serve students of all ages, discussed how each program works, and provided registration information for anyone who is interested in volunteering; whereupon, she thanked the Board for continuing to support the government partnership for the programs.

In response to queries by the members, Dr. Brimm related that virtual mentoring requires volunteers to participate in weekly virtual sessions and four face-to-face sessions, scheduled throughout the school year, and introduced Keosha Simmons as the new Director of the Lunch Pals program. She indicated that most volunteers' backgrounds are screened free of charge; that any volunteer who is expected to be with students absent a school official would require a higher-level screening; and that the cost to the volunteer for higher-level screening is \$45.

**5. Partner Presentation:**

- Barbara St.Clair, Executive Director, Creative Pinellas, Inc.

Ms. St. Clair conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Traveling Public Art Project* and thanked the members of the Board for their continued support of the arts. She provided background information on the project and noted that SPACEcraft, a proposal from local artists Carrie Boucher, Bridget Elmer, and Mitzi Gordon, was ultimately chosen from a pool of 40 qualifying applications for the project; whereupon, Public Art Project Coordinator Jessica McCormick discussed the overall selection process, with input by Ms. St. Clair.

Ms. Boucher introduced SPACEcraft, stating that it will travel to 8 to 12 locations throughout the county over the course of two years; that it will offer art workshops, music, film, poetry readings, horticultural classes, and many other experiences; and that it will tie in to the local community and artists. She noted that there will be a magnetic poetry wall, a mural, and a wall built out of Legos, among other things, for hands-on interactions; and that the team is working to finalize locations and design, with a target date of April or May 2019.

Responding to queries by Commissioner Welch, Ms. Boucher discussed what a typical day would provide in terms of programming and scheduling, stating that the plan consists of various three-hour sessions that include 25 participants; and that each SPACEcraft container would stay in a community for approximately two months.

In response to queries by other members, Ms. Boucher related that each community will have input as to the programming offered at their location; that there is room in the budget to replace any items that may break or disappear; and that specific programming for preschool and elementary school children can be included; whereupon, she discussed plans for how to promote the installation within each community, and the logistics of moving the containers between locations.

Later in the meeting in response to query by Commissioner Long, Chair Seel stated that the project would be funded from BP Oil Spill Settlement money.

### **CONSENT AGENDA - Items 6 through 16 (Item 15 addressed under Regular Agenda)**

**A motion was made by Vice-Chair Gerard, seconded by Commissioner Welch, that the Consent Agenda items be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, Commissioner Peters, and Commissioner Welch

#### CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER

6. Minutes of the regular meeting held November 20, 2018.

7. Vouchers and bills paid from November 18 through December 15, 2018.

Period: November 18 through November 24, 2018

Accounts Payable - \$9,670,992.91

Payroll - None

Period: November 25 through December 1, 2018

Accounts Payable - \$33,090,031.00

Payroll - \$3,779,550.43

Period: December 2 through December 8, 2018

Accounts Payable - \$43,046,379.68

Payroll - None

Period: December 9 through December 15, 2018

Accounts Payable - \$15,019,424.30

Payroll - \$3,691,215.08

Reports received for filing:

8. Dock Fee Report for the month of December 2018.

9. Quarterly Report of Routine Dock and Dredge/Fill Applications Received from October 1 to December 31, 2018.
10. Quarterly Donation Listing of \$500 or More for the quarter ended September 30, 2018.

Miscellaneous items received for filing:

11. City of Clearwater Ordinances Nos. 9170-18, 9173-18, 9180-18, 9183-18, 9186-18, 9196-18, and 9199-18 adopted November 15, 2018, annexing certain properties.
12. City of Seminole Ordinances Nos. 18-2018, 19-2018, and 22-2018 adopted November 13, 2018, annexing certain properties.
13. Eastlake Oaks Community Development District minutes of the meeting held August 16, 2018.

#### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

##### Public Works

14. Award of bid to AKCA, Inc. for requirements of traffic pavement marking materials and services for the Tampa Bay Area Purchasing Cooperative.  
  
Contract No. 178-0490-B in an annual amount of \$679,265.50 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid meeting specifications, for a 60-month term total of \$3,396,327.50. Contract includes a provision for one price adjustment after the initial 36-month term, as set forth in the Staff Report. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

#### AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND COUNCILS

##### Human Rights

16. Authority to advertise a public hearing amending Article IV of Chapter 70 of the Pinellas County codes relating to wage theft/recovery.  
  
Authorization granted to advertise a public hearing to be held on January 22, 2019.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Public Works

- 15.** Award of bid to Cone & Graham, Inc. for the intersection improvements project on Betty Lane at Sunset Point Road.

Contract No. 178-0516-CP (PID No. 001018A) in the amount of \$3,150,991.20 awarded on the basis of being the lowest responsive, responsible bid received meeting specifications. All work is expected to be completed within 700 consecutive days. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

At Chair Seel's request, Transportation Manager Ken Jacobs referred to a map and discussed segments of the project, relating that bike lanes are included.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Welch

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Peters

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DEPARTMENTS

Convention and Visitors Bureau

- 17.** Local Arts Funding Agreement with Creative Pinellas, Inc. for marketing and promoting Pinellas County as an arts community and arts destination during Fiscal Year 2019.

Agreement in the amount of \$891,740.00 approved.

Commissioner Welch recognized Visit St. Pete/Clearwater President and CEO David Downing, noting his selection as one of the Top 25 Extraordinary Minds of 2018 by the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International, and the members offered Mr. Downing congratulations.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Welch

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Peters

Human Services

18. Funding Agreement with Directions for Mental Health, Inc. for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Grant program.

Agreement approved for funding in an amount not to exceed \$2,663,235.00 for four years, provided by Grant No. 1H79SM063549-01 from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

In response to query by Commissioner Gerard, Chair Seel indicated that the funding is in addition to the current budget.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Commissioner Long, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Welch

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Peters

Public Works

19. Interlocal Agreement with the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority to identify future transportation solutions.

Mr. Burton introduced the item and noted that the agreement would set the parameters needed to promote cooperation to explore transportation alternatives.

Commissioner Long stated that the proposed agreement has the potential to dilute the County's messaging to its federal partners, which has been more successful recently than it has been in the past. Responding to her comments and queries, Assistant County Administrator Rahim Harji indicated that the agreement allows for a sketch-level analysis of ideas and not specific planning actions; that there are no costs to the County for the analysis; and that any ideas would need to be further explored by staff to merit possible inclusion in the County's transportation plans.

Tampa-Hillsborough Expressway Authority (THEA) Executive Director and CEO Joseph Waggoner provided an introduction and stated that the interlocal agreement would allow THEA to work at the direction of County staff; that the goal is to provide many alternate solutions for each potential corridor it reviews; and that no commitments or obligations will be made as part of the process.

In response to queries by Commissioner Welch, Mr. Waggoner stated that THEA's business is to build user-fee managed facilities; that toll lanes and price-managed lanes are designed to move vehicles and people in a reliable manner; and that price-managed lanes

are as much about maintaining a certain service level as they are about raising funds to help build facilities. He noted that legislation allows THEA to work with adjacent counties through interlocal agreements; and that Pinellas County would be its first partner outside of Hillsborough County.

Commissioner Welch indicated that he shares the concerns of Commissioner Long. Responding to his queries, Mr. Harji stated that Forward Pinellas would be at the table in order to provide its recommendations; and that if a recommendation is approved, it would be rolled into the County's overall transportation plan and tie in to any long-range planning, going through the same process as similar transportation projects.

In response to comments by Chair Seel, Mr. Harji indicated that County staff would be responsible for public engagement and shareholder feedback, and discussion ensued.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Eggers, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

- Aye:** 5 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, and Commissioner Welch
- Nay:** 1 - Commissioner Long
- Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Peters

**20.** Amendment No. 3 to the Emergency Grant Funding Agreement with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for red tide management for and within Pinellas County.

(PID No. 90004G1, FDEP Contract No. AB006) Amendment approved providing for an increase in funding in the amount of \$1,199,251.30, for a total revised funding amount of \$7,500,000.00, and retaining the reimbursement period expiration date of March 31, 2019. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Welch, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

- Aye:** 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Welch
- Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Peters

Real Estate Management

**21.** First Amendment to the Agreement with S&ME, Inc. for professional environmental and engineering services.

(Contract No. 156-0008-CN) Amendment approved increasing the contract limit from \$500,000.00 to \$920,000.00 to continue remediation at the former Zero Corporation site, effective through April 8, 2021. Chair authorized to sign and the Clerk to attest.

Responding to queries by the members, Real Estate Management Director Andrew Pupke stated that remediation of the site is ongoing and will likely continue for at least another four years; that when the remediation is complete, the Pinellas County School Board has the right of first refusal regarding the County's sale of the property; and that a portion of the property is presently licensed to the School Board, which operates Bayside High School on an unaffected area of the parcel. He noted that remediation is needed on three of the parcel's 13 total acres.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Welch

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Peters

- 22.** Second Amendment to the Lease Agreement with Mainstream Partners IV, LLC to expand existing warehouse space to support the relocation of the records warehouse storage operations for the State Attorney, Public Defender, Medical Examiner, and Court Administration.

Amendment approved providing for a new rental rate of \$10.22 per square foot with an annual 3.5-percent escalation rate for a 60-month term, as set forth in the Staff Report.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Welch

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Peters

- 23.** Interlocal Agreement with the City of Clearwater and the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority for a joint-use facility site study.

Agreement approved for a downtown Clearwater site study as set forth in the Staff Report.

In response to queries by Commissioners Justice and Long, Mr. Burton related that the study would not commit the members to selecting a specific site, and provided information regarding when site selection discussions could potentially occur; whereupon, Real Estate Management Director Andrew Pupke indicated that while exterior maintenance at the Clearwater Courthouse is budgeted in the Capital Improvement Program, window replacement and facade preservation is being deferred until after the joint-use facility site study.

In response to queries by Commissioner Eggers, Messrs. Burton and Pupke discussed matters relating to programming, space planning, square footage, and capacity, and Chair Seel provided input.

A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** 5 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Welch

**Nay:** 1 - Commissioner Justice

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Peters

#### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

**24.** County Administrator Miscellaneous.

Mr. Burton distributed a document titled *2018 Pinellas County Government Accomplishments*, a copy of which has been made a part of the record, and showed a video highlighting staff efforts over the past year.

#### COUNTY ATTORNEY

**25.** County Attorney Miscellaneous.

Attorney White discussed a potential conflict of interest that could involve a Board appointee to the Tourist Development Council, and asked for consensus from the members to request an informal opinion on the matter from the Florida Commission on Ethics.

In response to comments and queries by the members, Attorney White provided further information regarding the potential conflict of interest, relating that it would be informative to seek an opinion regarding the matter. Following discussion, Chair Seel noted that there was support among the members for making the request.

#### COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS

**26.** County Administrator Reports:

- Recommended updates to the Board of County Commissioners Travel Policy
- Federal Legislative update from Van Scoyoc Associates
- Discussion of the 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities

Recommend Updates to the Board of County Commissioners Travel Policy

Erin Dowie, Office of Management and Budget, conducted a PowerPoint presentation titled *Doing Things! BCC Travel Policy Update Recommendations*, a copy of which has been

made a part of the record, and discussed the following:

- Current State and Background
- Review Methodology and Scope
- Desired Outcomes
- Recommendation Overview
- Additional Recommendations

In response to comments and queries by Commissioners Gerard and Long, Ms. Dowie and Clerk Harris discussed reimbursable expenses and self parking versus valet parking of vehicles; whereupon, Mr. Burton and Ms. Dowie provided information relating to next steps.

#### Federal Legislative Update from Van Scoyoc Associates

Van Scoyoc Associates Vice President Harry Glenn referred to a document titled *2018 Year End Federal Affairs Report*, a copy of which has been made a part of the record, and provided an update relating to the following potential legislative issues:

- National Flood Insurance Program
- Beach Nourishment
- Offshore Energy Exploration
- Opioid Crisis
- Opportunity Zones
- Waters of the United States

In response to queries and concerns by Commissioners Welch and Long, Mr. Glenn discussed local impacts concerning the partial shutdown of the federal government and provided specific information pertaining to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

#### Discussion of the 2019 Federal Legislative Priorities

Intergovernmental Liaison Brian Lowack referred to a document titled *Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners 2019 Preliminary Federal Legislative Program*, a copy of which has been made a part of the record, and discussed matters relating to the federal program, including:

- National Flood Insurance Program
- Beach Nourishment
- Offshore Oil Drilling
- Transportation

In response to comments by Commissioner Long, Mr. Lowack indicated that U.S. Representative Kathy Castor will be leading a special committee on climate change.

## CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

## 27. Public Comment.

Joshua Tilka, Seminole, re See Click Fix application

Matthew Scott, Palm Harbor, re Innisbrook gate to Bee Pond Road

Cynthia Melbourne, Largo, re return home delayed and private possession concerned

David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, re due process clause is not Santa clause - submitted document

Greg Pound, Largo, re families

In response to concerns expressed by Mr. Tilka, Mr. Burton related that his office will review issues regarding anonymous submissions and the See Click Fix application.

## COUNTY COMMISSION

## 28. 2019 State Legislative Program.

Following discussion, the Board reached consensus to add the Commission's support for the Eckerd Connects program and other child welfare funding as referred to under Agenda Item No. 29 to the 2019 State Legislative Program.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Long, seconded by Vice-Chair Gerard, that the item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 6 - Chair Seel, Vice-Chair Gerard, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Justice, Commissioner Long, and Commissioner Welch

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Peters

## 29. County Commission New Business Items:

- Child Welfare Fund Proposal (Commissioner Gerard)

- Eckerd Connects Report - Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (Commissioner Seel)

Refer to Item No. 28.

## 30. County Commission Board Reports and Miscellaneous.

The members reported on the activities of their assigned Boards and Committees and related or discussed the following items:

Commissioner Welch

- Encouraged the public to participate in local Martin Luther King Jr. Day events.

- Commended the Supervisors of Elections in Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties for proactively complying with the intent of Amendment Four, which takes effect today.

#### Commissioner Justice

- Reported that he will be attending the Gulf Consortium meeting at the end of January.
- Related that he will be attending a Homeless Leadership Board meeting on Friday, including an orientation session for new Board members.

#### Commissioner Long

- Discussed recent and upcoming activities of the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council.
- Requested an update regarding Baypointe Golf Club; Mr. Burton provided a brief report.
- Reported that the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority Board is considering rebranding the acronym BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) for the Central Avenue Line and discussed the rationale for the potential change.
- Requested that a joint meeting take place between the BCC and Tourist Development Council to discuss the prospect of revising the 60 percent/40 percent tourism versus capital split, and presented her reasons. During discussion Chair Seel related that her preference is that discussion on the matter take place at the upcoming Strategic Planning Meeting prior to scheduling a joint BCC/TDC meeting.

Later in the meeting, further discussion took place regarding the 60/40 split and related matters, and Commissioner Welch suggested that future discussions include whether Pinellas County has any interest in funding a new stadium for the Tampa Bay Rays baseball team.

#### Commissioner Eggers

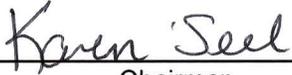
- Invited the public to attend local Martin Luther King Jr. Day events.
- Discussed recent and upcoming activities of the Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area Leadership Group, Tampa Bay Water and the Executive Board, and Forward Pinellas.

#### Commissioner Gerard

- Expressed appreciation to Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark for respecting the rights of local citizens pertaining to Amendment Four.

- Provided information regarding a draft ordinance concerning the Faith and Action for Strength Together organization.
- Reported that the CareerSource Pinellas Bylaws Committee will meet this week and issue a Request for Proposals to market the Science Center.
- Related that the Youth Advisory Committee will be touring St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport next week.

**ADJOURNMENT - 1:00 P.M.**

  
Chairman

ATTEST: KEN BURKE, CLERK

By   
Deputy Clerk

